

John, - 20th 1891

July 1915

July 6th, 1915

Sir John Paton,

Toronto.

My dear Sir John:

I was anxious to see you before I leave for the country to-morrow, but I am sorry that your engagements and my own have made this impossible. Will you allow me to lay before you for your consideration a scheme which I desire to have initiated in the University? I should like you to consider it, and if you feel that you cannot think of it favourably, perhaps you would not definitely decide in that way until I have had a chance of talking to you about it on my return to the city.

The scheme that I wish to get inaugurated is a system of Graduate Fellowships, each fellowship of the value of \$500, and involving an expenditure of about \$10,000 a year in all. The purpose of the scheme is to enable our own students who have taken a degree in any one of the Faculties to continue their work for graduate degrees, and to induce students from other Provinces of the Dominion to come here and finish the work for their advanced degrees here. This seems to me to be a very critical time for us in Canada. Undoubtedly we have learned from the Germans that efficiency is a primary quality for success. The only success that they have had has been due to their expert knowledge. We in Canada must produce more experts. I do not need to assure you of this. Your success in business enables you to realise this better than most people do, but we in the University must

turn out the expert. Now if we do not educate him ourselves, he will go to the United States, and rarely return. We have literally hundreds of our most promising Canadians in high positions in the United States, who in the past have gone there to get advanced education. After the war their Universities will be better equipped than ever. Our students will not go to Germany. The financial resources of England may be such that it may be difficult for them to go to England, and the United States will offer greater attractions than ever. It is therefore incumbent upon us in Canada to keep our people home. Moreover, with the rise of the new Universities students are being educated, but know nothing about Eastern Canada, because they are the sons of foreign parents, and after they have been educated in Winnipeg Saskatchewan and Alberta, they will naturally go south to the great Universities of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Chicago, and even Cornell. All these Universities offer Fellowships, and are eager to get our students. If they do return to Canada they will return more as Americans than Canadians and know nothing about the East. To my mind it is vital that we should do something to attract them here. It is a great patriotic duty that rests upon us. Just at present the Government cannot help us. We have to cut down expenses on all sides. I am therefore trying to secure help from leading Canadians who will look upon this as a patriotic privilege. Will you be kind enough to think it over and not to decide adversely at least before I have a chance to talk with you. With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

